

S/N 10/005466

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: YASUO et al.

Examiner: Unknown

Serial No.: 10/005466

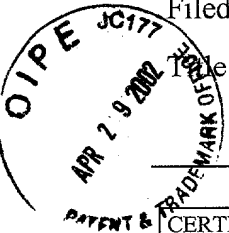
Group Art Unit: Unknown

Filed: 11/08/2001

Docket No.: 10876.51US01

Title:

SEPARATOR USED FOR FUEL CELL, METHOD FOR MANUFACTURING THE SEPARATOR, AND THE FUEL CELL



CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service, as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on April 5, 2002.

By:

Name: Hicham Richara

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

BOX MISSING PARTS

Assistant Commissioner for Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

In connection with the above-identified application, please enter the following preliminary amendment:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 10 and 15 as follows:

10. (amended) A fuel cell having an anode on one surface of an electrolytic film, a cathode on a remaining surface of the electrolytic film, a separator being opposed to the anode, and a separator being opposed to the cathode, wherein the fuel cell generates power from a fuel and an oxidizer when the fuel is distributed along a surface of the separator facing the anode and the oxidizer is distributed along a surface of the separator facing the cathode, wherein the separator is the fuel cell separator of claim 1.

15. (amended) The manufacturing method of claim 12, wherein the physical vapor deposition is an arc ion plating method.

REMARKS

The above preliminary amendment is made to remove multiple dependencies from claims 10 and 15.

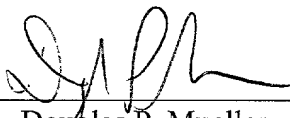
Applicants respectfully request that the preliminary amendment described herein be entered into the record prior to calculation of the filing fee and prior to examination and consideration of the above-identified application.

If a telephone conference would be helpful in resolving any issues concerning this communication, please contact Applicants' primary attorney-of record, Douglas P. Mueller (Reg. No. 30,300), at (612) 371.5237.

Respectfully submitted,

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.  
P.O. Box 2903  
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402-0903  
(612) 332-5300

Dated: April 5, 2002

By   
Douglas P. Mueller  
Reg. No. 30,300

DPM:hb

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THE SEPARATOR, AND THE FUEL CELL

MARKUP COPY SHOWING THE CHANGES MADE

10. (amended) A fuel cell having an anode on one surface of an electrolytic film, a cathode on a remaining surface of the electrolytic film, a separator being opposed to the anode, and a separator being opposed to the cathode, wherein the fuel cell generates power from a fuel and an oxidizer when the fuel is distributed along a surface of the separator facing the anode and the oxidizer is distributed along a surface of the separator facing the cathode,

wherein the separator is ~~any one of the fuel cell separators~~ separator of Claims claim 1 to 9.

15. (amended) The manufacturing method ~~of any one of Claims claim 12 to 14,~~  
wherein the physical vapor deposition is an arc ion plating method.